THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"But let your communication be Yea, yea; Nay, nay; for whatsoever cometh of more than these is evil." BOOK OF MORMON, 3 NEPHI 12: 37.

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THE TESTING TIME*

ELDER MELVIN J. BALLARD

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

I AM HAPPY, my brethren and sisters, to find myself in full accord with all that has been said in this important conference, and earnestly do I desire to add my testimony to those which have been borne, and to speak of one or two items that have already been referred to, which have been weighing very heavily upon my own mind for more than a year past. I believe that this representative gathering of Latter-day Saints affords an opportunity for the messages that have been delivered by the President of the Church and his associates to be carried, in the spirit of these instructions, to the various stakes of Zion.

MEETING THE TESTING TIME

I wish to read a few verses from the 115th section of the Doctrine and Covenants. The Lord said to His Church in 1838:

Verily I say unto you all: Arise and shine forth, that thy light may be a standard for the nations;

And that the gathering together upon the land of Zion, and upon her stakes, may be for a defense, and for a refuge from the storm, and from wrath when it shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth.

I have felt that the Lord had in mind the very perils that are threatening the world and are endangering the faith of some neglectful Latter-day Saints when He spoke of finding a place of defense for us, a place where we may escape not only the physical

*Address delivered at the closing session of the Ninety-seventh Annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 6th, 1927.

dangers that will be in the world, but also those storms of a moral character that are far more disastrous to people than physical destruction or physical injury. It has been said during the conference that as a Church we are enjoying a period of peace. I rejoice that after nearly a century of struggle and effort, contending against all kinds of opposition, we have at last won the right to exist, a right conceded now by men and women generally in the world. Reference has also been made to the condition of prosperity that is with us. I rejoice in that. I would not change the prosperity of the people, nor would I stir up strife. I welcome peace; it gives us a better opportunity to deliver our message to the children of men; but the thing I am concerned about is not so much what the world thinks about us just now as it is our own status with reference to keeping the commandments of God and how to meet the perils that are before us. I am not a pessimist, and yet, seeing and feeling things most clearly, I want to be one of those watchmen upon the towers of Zion, with my brethren, who detect the storm that is coming and give a fair warning, and point out not only the danger, but the way to avert that danger. Therefore, I feel that we have probably reached, in the Church, in this period of our peace and prosperity, a testing time for us.

THE DESTINY OF THIS DISPENSATION

By reading the history of the past you will find that no dispensation of the Gospel has ever had so hard a time to maintain itself as during the period of its own peace and prosperity. Indeed, there is no gospel dispensation that has yet survived its peace and prosperity. In the time of trouble people were united and stood shoulder to shoulder and endured all things and kept the faith and died for the faith. I say, I am not a pessimist, nor do I believe that we will lose the faith, nor do I believe that the dangers which threaten us are going to overwhelm us, and yet I am conscious of the fact that mere membership in this Church will not save a man or a woman. It will require something else. I cling tenaciously to the promise made through the Prophet Daniel, as the Lord inspired him, looking down to our own period of time and predicting the rise of this Church, insignificant as it was, like a stone cut out of the mountain without hands, yet it shall roll forth until it will fill the whole earth, and it shall not be left to another people, nor shall it fail. I have a comfort in that; I have an abiding confidence that no matter what the difficulties are, the majority of this people shall survive even this peril, and that we shall demonstrate the thing that never has yet been done; namely, maintain the truth and defend it in peace as well as in times of trouble, and that the work shall go on victoriously until Christ shall come to receive it, and that it shall roll forth until it fills the whole earth, for it is the last dispensation and it shall

not fail. But many of us may fail. That is my fear; that is my anxiety.

In the time of our peace and prosperity we may be tempted to be indulgent with ourselves. All over the world I believe there is a growing spirit, even in the hearts of many leaders, to become careless, to become more or less accustomed to the new order of things that obtains. This, after all, is most threatening to the life, to the peace of the people and to the stability of even governments themselves. The statement of a poet is still true, that:

> Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
> As, to be hated, needs but to been seen;
> Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
> We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

THERE IS NO COMPROMISE WITH SIN

We came out of the world to escape the evils of the world, but, as has just been observed, these world conditions have come to us. We are part of the world, and the influences of the world and the practices of the world will naturally have their effect upon the lives of the Latter-day Saints. Is it possible that we ourselves are seeing so much of these things which a hundred years ago when this Church was brought into existence would have shocked us—the present moral status, the frequency of divorce, and many common practices that are heralded abroad throughout our own country that would have been revolting then—is it possible that these vices have been seen so much by us that even some of us begin to feel a little bit callousod and almost wink at them? I hope not. I believe that this body of people here assembled have no such feeling as to compromise or tolerate evil. We are tolerant of the sinner, but we cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance; and woe be to the man or woman, the leader in the wards or stakes or elsewhere among the young people, who can wink at sin and compromise with it!

THE TENDENCY TO INDULGENCE AND RELAXATION

Woe be to him who contributes to the establishment or the perpetuation of a state or condition that contributes to the delinquency, to the sin, to the transgression of boys or girls or men or women. So far as we are concerned we stand solidly against immorality; and let me say to you, my brethren and sisters, the culminating thing that shall come out of this tendency toward indulgence, toward relaxation, is immorality, and immorality is the plague of the world to-day, and that plague is threatening all about us, if it is not indeed creeping into the midst of Latter-day Saints. Therefore, to our standards, men of Israel, which teach us to look upon virtue as precious as life itself,

and that we would as soon die as lose our virtue. There is no cessation on the part of the enemy against this work. Though he may not be conspiring to move mobs against us, nor to induce men to annihilate us, he is among the people with new means and ways, lulling them off to sin a little, to lie a little and to steal a little, and do other things with the promise: You will be beaten with a few stripes, but you will be all right. It is the doctrine of the devil which is intended to lead men gently down to hell, and we cannot be ignorant of it nor indifferent toward it.

RESIST NOT THE LAW

When the Lord gave the Word of Wisdom He used this language in the 4th verse of the 89th section of the Doctrine and Covenants:

Behold, verily, thus saith the Lord unto you: In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you, and forewarn you, by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation.

The Lord knew what was coming. He knew back in Daniel's time. He could tell the nations what would arise. He knew the times of men's coming. He knew their habitations and their limitations and he could foretell them. God knew, when He spoke to the Prophet Joseph Smith, that which would come: Knowing, said he, the calamity that would come upon the earth. He spoke to Joseph Smith and through him sent a warning to all the world of the danger that was threatening, and offered the means of escape. But the Lord is very much like an earthly father. What can an earthly father do to his grown sons and daughters more than to teach them of the danger? He cannot rescue them against their will if they are determined to sin and transgress the laws of God and man. They presently shall come into bonds and imprisonment and be subject to the execution of the law, and when the judge renders his decision it may be years or a life of imprisonment or even the execution of the man himself. The father would be willing to give his life to save his son, but he cannot do it, neither can he cancel the judgment of the court nor set aside the majesty of the law. So it is with our Heavenly Father. All He can do is to warn us, point out the danger, show us the way of escape, and when we resist it all we bind God. We speak of binding the devil, and the devil will be bound and have no power over us when we resist him, but we may resist the Lord in the same manner, and thus bind His hands so that He can do nothing for us, for He Himself is ruled by law; He cannot set aside the majesty of eternal law, nor save men in their sins. In the 88th section of the Doctrine and Covenants we read:

And again, verily I say unto you, that which is governed by law is also preserved by law and perfected and sanctified by the same.

That which breaketh a law, and abideth not by law, but seeketh to become a law unto itself, and willeth to abide in sin, and altogether abideth in sin, cannot be sanctified by law, neither by mercy, justice, nor judgment. Therefore, they must remain filthy still.

So that God is rendered helpless in the case of a man or woman in this Church or out of this Church who resists Him and who will not abide the law.

THE WORD OF WISDOM GIVEN TO FORTIFY US

Now the Lord gave us the Word of Wisdom to fortify us against the temptations of the day, giving us the power to resist, knowing that the man or woman who breaks the Word of Wisdom and uses tobacco, tea and coffee will weaken his or her moral stability. So that in this other period that now has come, of other temptation that leads to graver sin and immorality, the individual has broken down his morale, his will and his power to resist, notwithstanding the thing that he does is contrary to the will of God, has lost the power to stand when greater temptations come. God was steeling us and arming us and fortifying us against the plague that is now threatening us.

ON MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

An article recently appearing in one of our magazines stated that the divorce rate is growing so rapidly that, if it continues in the same increase in proportion to marriages, by the year 1936 there will be as many divorces each year as marriages in the United States. What will that do for the world or for the United States? It will destroy the family life, and when the family life is broken up and destroyed the government will be in peril. God's work can go forward only by men and women in the Church and in the State observing the sanctity of the marriage relationship. Side by side with us, in this and other States of the Union, we find forces tending to the destruction of family life. In Russia and elsewhere there is a great rebellion, inspired by Bolshevism, which teaches the doctrine of companionship in marriage that may be changed and altered at will, and that the children are the property of the State. When these doctrines are spread abroad what is the antedote for them? It is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Latter-day Saints have that which teaches them to prepare themselves to come into holy places, and, over holy altars, receive each other by the authority that binds on earth and it is bound in heaven, in companionship as husband and wife, parent and children, for time and all eternity—no planning for divorce here in our own ranks. The evidence of the safety in God's plan is manifested, for there are twice as many divorces among our own people who are married outside of the Temple as among those who enter into

that holy place and receive each other in this bond of union that begins to plan and to build forever and forever, and our divorce rate is one-fifth the rate of this country. If we want to escape the plague of divorce, if we want to escape the destruction of family life—and when family life is gone faith is gone, and there shall come quickly other perils in the wake of it, until we shall be threatened with the destruction of our civilization—we must preserve the foundation upon which family life rests, eternal unions. We may be found fault with as being narrow and intolerant by some of our outside friends, but we stand for those things that are fundamental. We always shall stand for them, and we refuse to be absorbed by present world standards; we expect to be victorious in defending our own. And presently, showing by the lives of the Latter-day Saints the fruits of these things, it will awaken surely in the hearts of righteous men a consciousness that here in "Mormonism" is stability, a stability that will save men, save the family, save the home, save the nation.

OUR GREATEST ASSET IS OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

When Brother Pratt and I were in South America we presented pictures of the achievements of the Church, and I said to Brother Pratt, and have said many times since, that the greatest product we have is not our material prosperity. What I wanted was a picture of tens of thousands of "Mormon" boys and girls, and we have them, who keep the Word of Wisdom, who never have used tea, coffee or tobacco, who are as pure, as clean and undefiled as the angels of God. I would never have discovered the match of these boys and girls elsewhere in all the world, although I would have observed individual instances, but not in community groups like they may be found here, the product of this Church. So that my soul turns towards them in a sympathy to-day, confronted with conditions that are strange and new. They need us. There is now a warfare which will require the closest cooperation on the part of the leaders with their people, on the part of fathers and mothers with their sons and daughters. No wonder the Lord said that without this principle which joins parents and children to each other for time and all eternity—the turning not only of the hearts of the living to the dead, but of the living children to their earthly parents, in a union that will preserve the family—the whole earth would be utterly wasted. The great saving thing in the world to-day is this principle upon which family life is established in this Church.

TESTIMONY

Now the Lord bless us, brethren, that we shall go home with an awakened interest in the new problems that have arisen, with a consciousness that the people to whom Brother Stephen L.

Richards has just referred, who are in danger and in peril because they keep not the commandments of God, that we shall reawaken their interest in these simple and yet all-important saving principles. They are the only hope of the world and the only hope of this Church. I know that God is with us. We are not in the dark. The light is in the ship; the captain is inspired. He knows where he is going. God is at the helm and the storms may blow, they may become furious, but I declare to you, as the Lord lives, that if the Latter-day Saints will only keep His commandments and accept of the plan He has offered, God is bound; His promise will be fulfilled, we shall come out victorious and shall be far more distinguished than we are to-day if we can only weather the storm that is threatening. God help us to do so, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE DIVINITY OF JESUS OF NAZARETH*

His Foreknowledge

Few men know what the future holds in store for them. One may make plans, and so far as possible follow them; but disease, accidents, or financial reverses may befall, and in consequence the best plans my fail. Human wisdom alone is inadequate to forecast the future in life; only divine foreknowledge can do that.

It is an outstanding fact, attested by many scriptures, that Jesus knew what duties lay ahead of Him, and from His early years foresaw the sufferings that awaited Him, the cross, the sepulchre, and the glorious resurrection by which His appointed mission in mortality should be so sublimely consummated.

As a boy of twelve years He knew that the Temple was His Father's house, and that therein He was about His "Father's business." To the learned Rabbi, Nicodemus, Jesus claimed to be the Messiah, though He called Himself by the oft-used title, the Son of Man. For the significance of this exalted title see *Jesus the Christ*, pp. 142-144.

To Nicodemus; who came to Him by night seeking instruction, He said: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." See John 3: 14, 15.

To the Samaritan woman, at Jacob's well, He made a yet plainer avowal of His Messiahship. See John 4: 25, 26.

(*Continued on page 476*)

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*This article is for use in the course of study of the Relief Societies on the second meeting night in August.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1927

EDITORIAL

THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Elder Richard Louis Evans has been appointed to the responsible office of Associate Editor of the *Millennial Star*. Elder Evans arrived in this Mission in November last, and, thence onward to the time of his transfer to the Liverpool Office in May, laboured as a Traveling Elder in the Norwich District, wherein he distinguished himself for his earnest and devoted service to the great cause for which this Church stands. Our readers have had opportunity to become acquainted with Elder Evans through his recent contributions to these pages, and such opportunity is now enhanced, as he assumes a personal and official responsibility in the preparation of our once-a-week magazine. We doubt not that the new Associate Editor will enjoy a full measure of support from his presiding brethren, from his fellow missionaries in the field, and from all resident members of the Church in these lands.—J. E. T.

CALL AGAIN, BROTHER AND SISTER BROSSARD

Hon. Edgar B. Brossard, of the United States Tariff Commission, with offices in Washington, D.C., arrived at Durham House with his wife, Mrs. Luella Cowley Brossard, on the 21st instant. He is making an official tour of most of the European countries, in visitation to the several U. S. Embassies, going as far east as Vienna, Austria, thence to Spain. Brother and Sister Brossard had spent several days in London before coming to Liverpool; and there as well as here, and everywhere they go, they manifest the missionary spirit in a high degree.

Elder Brossard will be remembered by many of our people as the first President of the French Mission, in which office he was installed on October 15th, 1912, when that Mission was created under the immediate direction of President Rudger Clawson, of the Council of the Twelve, as a unit embracing the general areas in which French-speaking people dwell, and these parts included sections of the Swiss and German Mission, the Netherlands Mission and several isolated branches. President Brossard was released from his important office with honour and thanks on May

13th, 1914. When at home, in Washington, D.C., Elder Brossard is an active worker in the several organizations of the Church, and Sister Brossard is prominent in Relief Society work. May their journey be attended with happiness and success throughout.

NORWEGIAN MISSION PRESIDENT

Elder Lorenzo W. Anderson has been appointed to succeed President Martin Christophersen as the head of the Norwegian Mission. President Christophersen sailed from Sweden for his home in Utah on July 15th, after having presided in Norway for a period of a year and a half—that is on this later appointment—for he had filled many earlier missions in his native land and has held the responsible office of Mission President on prior occasions. Well advanced in years, yet ever youthful in spirit, he has manifested the vigour of manhood's prime throughout his several terms of missionary assignment; and, during the intervals, when he has been at home in the West, he has been uniformly active and devoted in his church duties.

President Lorenzo W. Anderson, now presiding in the Norwegian Mission, is well trained for his high duties by having served faithfully as a missionary in other capacities; and we may rightly count on great development of the Church in Norway under his earnest and efficient leadership.

OLD FOLKS HONOURED

Fifty-two years ago a commendable practice was begun. A day was set aside and an outing provided for the Old Folks, all who had attained the age of seventy years and over. Since that time, with the exception of one year, "Old Folks Day" has been observed every summer, and has become a permanent institution in Utah, under the auspices of the Church.

Word comes of the completion of another enjoyable excursion for the Old Folks. Approximately three thousand, ranging between the ages of seventy up to more than a hundred years, were entertained at Liberty Park, Salt Lake City, Utah. Transportation, food, and an excellent program were provided without charge, and many spry old veterans happily renewed acquaintances of bygone days and chatted over events that are beyond the remembrance of the generation now in charge of affairs. The Old Folks' choir was heard, and old-fashioned dances were enjoyed, music being furnished by some of the masters of days of yore.

It is said to have been an inspiring sight by those who saw so many of the stalwarts of the past being made happy by the

ministrations of the younger men and women. Many tourists who witnessed the proceedings said much by way of praise for the respect and recognition so shown to the aged.

A FRIENDLY CALL

EARLY in July, Elder Thomas Clarke, a native Briton and former resident of Douglas, Isle of Man, made a friendly call at Durham House, Liverpool, headquarters of the European Mission. Brother Clarke went out to Utah about twenty-seven years ago. At that time he was not a member of the Church, but, he said, he was impressed with the fairness and clean-cut lives of the men with whom he was associated in business in Utah, so much so that he investigated the cause—a practical religion—and was convinced that what he found among these people was the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. He became a member of the Church five years after he had reached Utah. His mother later visited him and also joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints after she had taken ample time to investigate first-hand.

Brother Clarke later married Lucy Tribe, a native of Utah and also a faithful member of the Church. He has raised his family there. He came back for a short visit to his relatives and old friends, and to participate in the recent ceremonies on the Isle of Man. He is strong in the faith, active in church work, and holds the position of City Treasurer of Ogden, Utah.

Like others who receive a testimony of the truth, Brother Clarke is zealous, and anxious that his kinsfolk and acquaintances be receptive to the message of the latter-days. During his brief visit he experienced much joy in explaining the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ whenever opportunity afforded.

THE WORLD AROUND

DR. FRANKLIN S. HARRIS

PRESIDENT OF THE BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, PROVO, UTAH

DURING the course of a year of travel around the globe it has been my good fortune to come in contact with members of the Church and with missionary activities in some of the remote places of the earth.

Out in the Pacific Ocean, a week by fast steamer from any mainland, I found in the Hawaiian Islands many members of the Church. I was informed by a number of business men that the natives who belong to the Church are among the very finest and

most trustworthy people of the Islands. One of the most beautiful buildings in Hawaii is the recently constructed Latter-day Saints' Temple located at Laie.

In Japan I was pleased to find some very faithful members of the Church even though there have been no missionaries in that land for a number of years. I met with them from Osaka on the south to Sapporo on the north Island of Hokkaido. They sang the songs of Zion and bore their testimonies with the same fervour that goes with worship by the Latter-day Saints everywhere. Even though my visit there was short I became very much attached to the members of the Church in Japan, just as I have become attached to them in all lands where I have found them.

In Syria and Palestine I visited groups of Armenian members. They were refugees from Turkey and had endured great hardships which grew out of the Great War and their being driven from their homes. They had rallied around President Joseph W. Booth, and were gradually getting back to normal living.

I was very much touched by the fine spirit shown in their meetings. Local officers presided at the meetings of the various church organizations and presented programs that would have been worthy of any of the wards of Zion.

In Athens, Greece, where there is no regular branch of the Church, I found a number of faithful members. One of them, Rigas Pofantis, who has belonged to the Church for many years, has shown a zeal which is truly commendable.

In passing through the various Missions of Europe I have been deeply impressed by the fine spirit which has been found everywhere. The missionaries I have met are without exception full of zeal and devotion; and they are doing everything in their power to bring the Gospel to the attention of those who are seeking the truth. I have dropped in on them without warning, and always I have found them at work.

Branches of the Church where I have visited have everywhere been made up of members who have a real devotion to the work of the Lord.

As I have traveled through the world and have seen the yearning on the part of countless people in all lands for spiritual food, and observed the confusion on religious matters that exists everywhere, then, when I have met groups of Latter-day Saints with all of their spiritual calm and have felt the same spirit, whether in Hawaii, Japan, Syria, or Europe, I have been made to realize what the Gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Latter-day Saints could mean to the people of the world if they would only take the trouble to investigate it, and if they had the wisdom to accept its doctrines and follow its teachings.

THE MEN who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed.—LLOYD JONES.

THE DIVINITY OF JESUS OF NAZARETH

(*Concluded from page 471*)

As the Apostles grew in knowledge and understanding under His superior tutelage He manifested His foreknowledge of the sacrifice that lay ahead of Him; though not until late in His period of earthly ministry did He openly declare this unto the people in general; and even the Twelve were unable or unwilling to construe His plain declarations literally. When He once told them "that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day", Peter was so deeply affected by the tragic prospect that he exclaimed: "this shall not be unto thee." The remark drew from Jesus a very severe rebuke. See Matt. 16: 21-23.

On the return journey from the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus spoke in confidence and plainness to Peter, James, and John concerning His rising from the dead: "And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean." See Mark 9: 9, 10.

Following a remarkable healing whereby a boy was freed from the torments of an evil spirit, Jesus again impressed upon the Twelve His certain knowledge of what was to befall Him, saying: "Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying." See Luke 9: 44, 45.

On another occasion He was equally plain in predicting His then rapidly approaching death and resurrection—and again the Apostles failed to completely understand. See Matt. 16: 21 and Mark 8: 31 and 9: 31.

To certain devout Greeks He declared the necessity of His death, that resurrection might follow; and in close connection with this incident the voice of the Father was again heard. See Matt. 26: 2. To Martha He avowed: "I am the resurrection, and the life." See John 11: 25.

The hesitancy of the Twelve to accept these declarations in literalness may have been due to the human weakness that manifests itself in unwillingness to believe what one does not desire to believe. That the foreknowledge of Christ concerning Himself extended beyond the grave is shown by His predictions concerning His then future preaching in the spirit world, and His many affirmations concerning His second coming, yet future. These we shall consider in later lessons.

SUMMARY

1. Very early in His ministry Jesus showed that He knew of the

death and resurrection awaiting Him. Prove this by the account of His interview with Nicodemus.

2. He made plain avowal of His Messiahship to a woman of Samaria. Relate the circumstances.

3. Repeatedly He told the Apostles of His impending crucifixion and resurrection. Cite the scriptural passages.

4. The Twelve were reluctant to accept these predictions in a literal way. Give instances. Explain.

5. Christ's foreknowledge as to Himself extended to His ministry beyond the grave. Give proof of this.

6. Human knowledge alone is insufficient to make plain and sure the future of anyone's life. How, then, did Jesus know so fully as to His future?

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfers: Elder N. Glenn Stanford from the Manchester to the Ulster District; Elder Evan H. Jenkins from the Leeds to the Ulster District.

Arrivals and Assignments: The following missionaries arrived in Liverpool on July 23rd, aboard the *Montclare*; they have been thus assigned:

For the British Mission—Eli Anthon Clayson, Spanish Fork, Utah, to the Nottingham District; Melvin E. Dunkley, American Fork, Utah, to the Leeds District; Alden John Kirkham, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Leeds District; Elbert Charles Kirkham, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Hull District; Milford Alma Piggott, Ogden, Utah, to the London District; Weston W. Taylor, Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Welsh District.

For the French Mission—Clarence H. Manning, Ogden, Utah.

For the German-Austrian Mission—Merrill Eugene Cook, Paris, Idaho; Theron Spencer Covey, Salt Lake City, Utah; Arthur Davis Hasler, Provo, Utah; Henry Smith Kesler, Salt Lake City, Utah; James William Moffett, American Fork, Utah; David Morgan, Spanish Fork, Utah; Mathias Cowley Richards, Brigham City, Utah; John Skola, Salt Lake City, Utah; Don Leon Taylor, Lehi, Utah; Thomas Scott Varley, Salt Lake City, Utah.

For the Netherlands Mission—Ben Bernards, Salt Lake City, Utah; Harry Asmus, Salt Lake City, Utah.

For the Swiss-German Mission—George K. Casto, Washington, D. C.; Sterling Don Hacking, Vernal, Utah; Winslow Whitney Smith, Salt Lake City, Utah; David Glen White, Ogden, Utah.

Appointment and Transfer: The evening services held at Bradford on Sunday, July 24th, partook more of the nature of a District assembly than an ordinary meeting of the Branch.

Mission President James E. Talmage addressed the gathering and announced the transfer of DISTRICT PRESIDENT THEODORE N. HUTCHINGS from the Leeds to the Norwich District. This transfer was made, the President said, in accordance with promise made to Elder Hutchings that he should have opportunity to labour in the region where dwell some of his relatives in the south-eastern counties. Tribute was paid the retiring President for the earnestness with which he has devoted himself to missionary labour in both the Sheffield and the Leeds Districts. He has been in the Mission since December 24th, 1925, and has been President of the Leeds District since October 14th, 1926. President Talmage then announced the appointment of ELDER ELMER O. ZOLLINGER as President of the Leeds District. Elder Zollinger came to Europe as a missionary in April 1926, and for nearly six months laboured in the Swiss-German Mission from which he was transferred to the British Mission. He has served in the London District of this Mission and was transferred to the Leeds District but a few days before his appointment as President went into effect.

Release and Appointment: At our evening services held in Lowestoft, Sunday, July 24th, the following letter was read by the District clerk:

Durham House
Edge Lane, Liverpool
July 24th, 1927

To the Missionaries and all the Resident Members of the Church in the Norwich District,

GREETING:

It has been my fond hope to be able to meet with you on this day; but duties call me elsewhere and I must be content with sending this word of good will and blessing.

PRESIDENT CLEMUEL J. NEVILLE, who has spent the period of his mission entirely in the Norwich District and has presided over the affairs of that District since November 15th, 1926, is hereby relieved from his duties as President, and is honourably released from further service as a missionary in this field. A combination of circumstances at home makes his return at this time advisable. I know that you join me in general regret that he has to leave, and in confident hope and trust that his journey homeward shall be safe and pleasant, and that he shall find his loved ones well and all his home affairs prosperous.

ELDER ALEXANDER J. BRYAN, heretofore of the London District, is hereby appointed President of the Norwich District, to succeed President Clemuel J. Neville. President Bryan is a man of experience in affairs of the Church as also in the practical business of life. He has made a splendid record for activity, devotion and efficiency in every phase of missionary labour to which he has been called. I commend President Bryan to you as one who is thoroughly worthy of your trust and confidence, and I doubt not you will uphold him by your works and words as you have so loyally done with respect to the retiring President.

Congratulating the Norwich District and all who belong thereto or are serving therein for the measure of success attained, I express my confident hope that yet greater success shall attend all who labour in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel there.

With best wishes, and with blessing, I remain, cordially your brother,

JAMES E. TALMAGE
Mission President

The services were marked throughout by happy fervency, though not devoid of solemnity and regret incident to the departure of Brother Neville. Addresses were made by both the departing and the incoming President.

Illness and Blessing: Elder William Fred Forsey, who arrived in this Mission in January last and has been labouring since as a Traveling Elder in the Liverpool District, was suddenly stricken with what proved to be an attack of acute appendicitis on July 13th. Attending physicians insisted on an immediate operation, and this he underwent at the Royal Blackburn Infirmary. He received the ordinance of administration, and abundant faith was manifest by him both before and after the surgical treatment. His rapid recovery is spoken of by physicians, surgeons and nurses as remarkable; and we who have been with him, as other members of the Church who shall read of the ordeal through which he has passed, humbly recognize the merciful manifestation of the Spirit of the Lord in his behalf. District President David M. Kennedy has made daily reports to these headquarters, each speaking in terms of reassurance and of the patient's progress; in a recent letter the President wrote:

I feel that much good will be done by his stay in the Infirmary, as he has already made many friends. On Sunday he had a long conversation with some of the men and they asked that he read to them from his Bible. This shows that the blessings of the Lord are over him, and that there are more ways than one in which the Gospel can be preached.

We look with confident hope for Elder Forsey's early and complete restoration.

Doings in the Districts: *Birmingham*—A farewell social was held on July 18th at Birmingham in honour of Elder John H. Parker, prior to his leaving for London, to which District he has been transferred. The gathering was well attended, and appreciation was expressed for the good work of Elder Parker.

Free State—A baptismal service was held at the Public Baths, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on Sunday afternoon, July 17th. Five persons were baptized by President Benjamin R. Birchall, and at the evening services of the same day, held at 8 Merrion Row, they were also confirmed by President Birchall. Appropriate addresses were delivered.

London—The Relief Society of the South London Branch held a successful bazaar on Saturday, July 2nd, in the Surrey Masonic Hall. The work of the Society was displayed in booths. Games were played, and a program of literary and musical numbers was creditably rendered. A goodly number of people attended; and a substantial sum of money was raised for the relief of the needy.

Sheffield—On Friday, July 15th, a farewell social was held at the Latter-day Saints' chapel at Sheffield in honour of Elder Nathaniel E. Parry who has been transferred from the Sheffield to the Welsh District. An excellent program was given and enjoyed by many who gathered to wish him well on his way.

Words from the Workers: Just prior to his honourable release President Landell S. Merrill, of the Manchester District, sent in this encouraging report: "All of our missionaries are optimistic concerning the work; and they are working long and diligently. I am pleased with the work that is being done. At our last missionary meeting each testified of the good results of Sunday and evening tracting. They happily say that more and better gospel conversations are engaged in at these times; and it is a source of great joy to them. Our records show that we are distributing a large and increasing amount of literature. Street meetings are being held throughout the District, and we hope to increase the number. We rejoice because of them, and feel that much good is derived therefrom, both for ourselves and the listeners."

"We have spent two weeks of very enjoyable work in the town of Leek, and we feel that our efforts have been crowned with success. During that time we have spent 86 hours tracting, distributed 3,000 tracts and 393 pamphlets, 7 copies of the Book of Mormon and one other book. Our evening tracting and open-air meetings have been particularly successful. The people of this vicinity seem ready to hear our message.—*From Elders Owen J. Carlisle and John L. Linton, Manchester District.*

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